

2019 Update: Good Food Purchasing in Cook County



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Good Food Purchasing Resolution

Approved in May 2018

Highlights

- Encourages relevant Cook County departments and agencies to implement the Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP)
- Establishes a Cook County Good Food Task Force
- Emphasizes that values-based food purchasing can “create opportunities for smaller farmers and low-income entrepreneurs of color to thrive”
- Promotes GFPP expansion to other institutions across Cook County



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Why GFPP is Important

Economic Development

- Works to address racial wealth gap

Good Government

- Creates values-based, transparent food supply chain & greater accountability

Equity

- Builds a healthy, equitable & sustainable food system and provides access to good food for all

“GOVERNMENTS HAVE FEW SOURCES OF LEVERAGE OVER INCREASINGLY GLOBALIZED FOOD SYSTEMS, BUT PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IS ONE OF THEM.

When sourcing food for schools, hospitals, and public administrations, governments have a rare opportunity to support more nutritious diets and more sustainable food systems in one fell swoop.”

OLIVIER DE SCHUTTER

Former U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food (2014)



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Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP)



Transforms public food purchasing to prioritize:

- Local Economies
- Valued Workforce
- Environmental Sustainability
- Animal Welfare
- Health & Nutrition



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Two-Phase, Multi-Step Process

- Phase I
 - Baseline assessment
 - Multi-year action plan
- Phase II
 - Taking action to improve Good Food practices
- Verification seal for departments and agencies meeting at least the baseline standard in each of the five value categories

GOOD FOOD PURCHASING AWARD LEVELS

STAR RATING	POINTS
★	5-9
★ ★	10-14
★ ★ ★	15-19
★ ★ ★ ★	20-24
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	25+



National Movement and GFPP Impact



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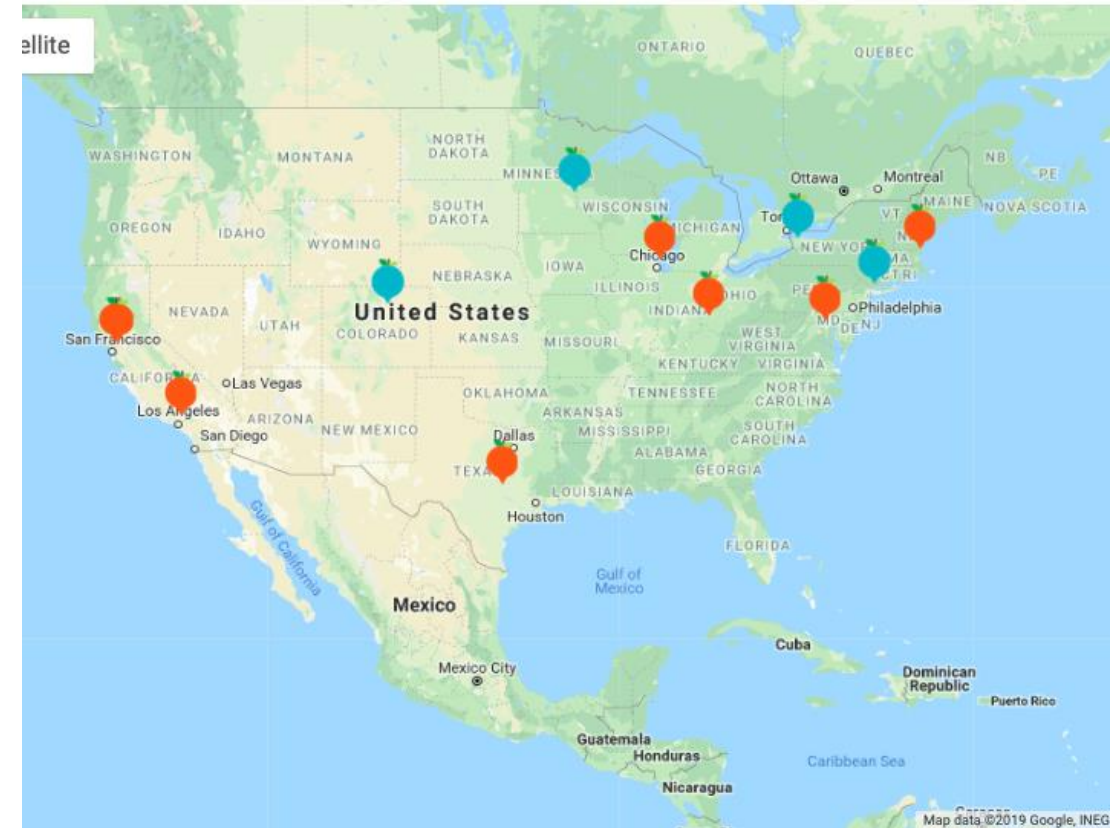
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GFPP Policy Adoption

- City of Los Angeles
- LA Unified School District
- Oakland Unified School District
- San Francisco Unified School District
- City of Chicago, Chicago Park District and Chicago Public Schools
- Cook County
- Washington DC Public Schools
- Cincinnati Public Schools
- City of Boston & Boston Public Schools
- Austin Independent School District
- Denver, Minneapolis, Buffalo, & NYC (no policy)



● = INSTITUTIONAL PARTICIPANTS

● = POLICY ADOPTIONS



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GFPP Successes

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)

- Shifted 81% of wheat products purchased to sustainable source
- 44 Food Alliance-certified farms supported by bakery's supplier
- Decreased meat by 28% with “Meatless Mondays”
- Uses only antibiotic-free chicken
- Went from 9-75% locally purchased fruits & veggies
- Higher quality meals for 650,000 LAUSD students



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GFPP Successes

Chicago Public Schools

- Adopted GFPP in Wellness Policy
- Current contract with Aramark includes GFPP commitments
- Conducted baseline food purchasing assessment in 2017
- Following action plan to achieve one star by 2020:
 - Bringing more locally grown foods into district (up by ~\$3 million this school year)
 - Shifted to compostable trays & cutlery
 - Working on contacting suppliers with reported labor violations



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2019 Actions and Progress



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Key Action Steps



Identified Relevant Depts and Agencies

- Key relevant departments and agencies purchasing food & beverages
 - Cook County Health
 - Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center
 - Cook County Sheriff's Office
- Bureaus critical for success
 - Bureau of Finance – Procurement and Contract Compliance
 - Bureau of Asset Management



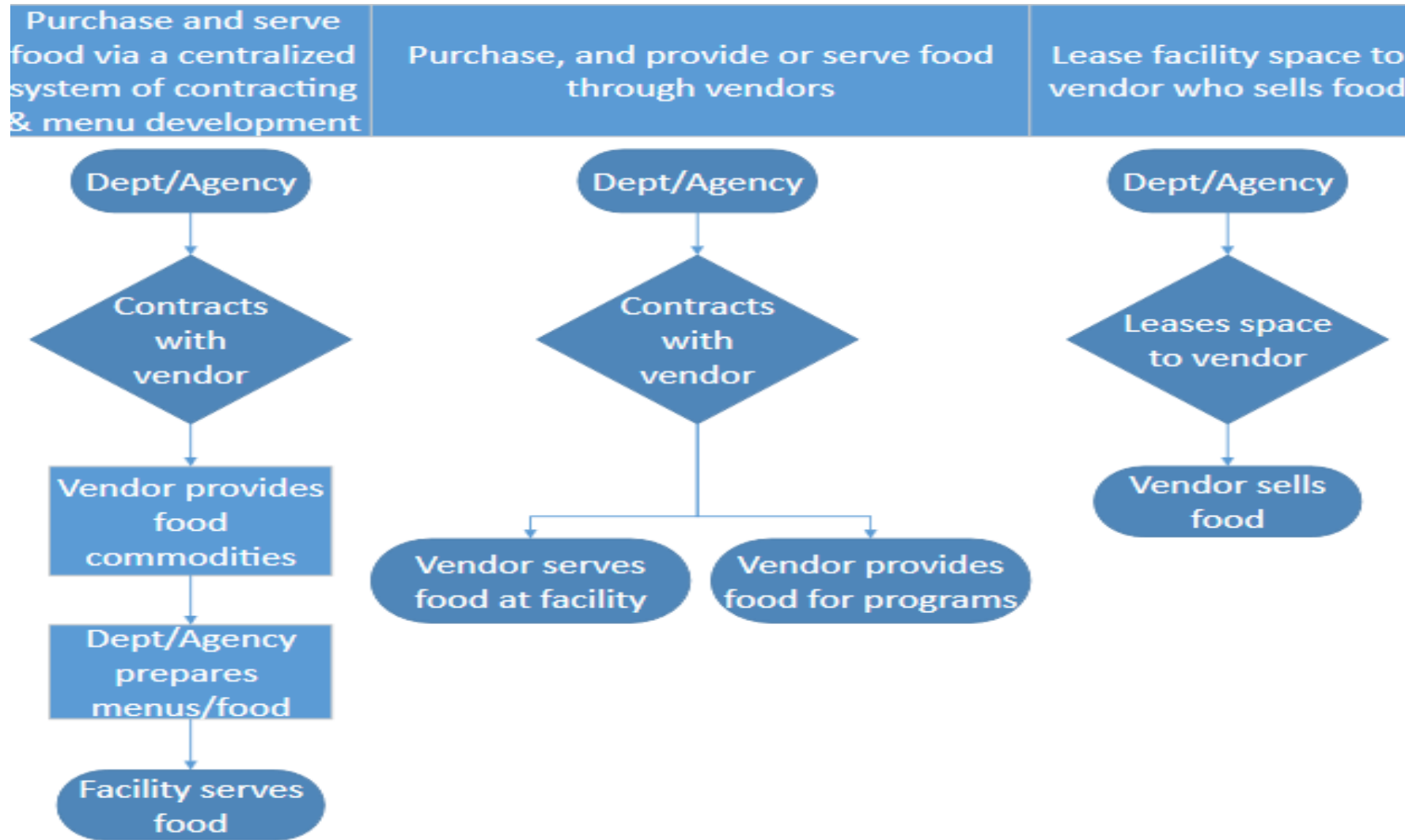
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Determined How Food is Procured



Collected Food Operations & Contracts

- Total annual food spend for CCH, CCSO, and JTDC is nearly \$15.3 million
- Over 8 million meals served per year

	Annual food spend	# of contracts	# of meals served
Cook County Health (CCH)	\$4,633,333 (3-yr average)	1	342,375/yr (in-patient)
Cook County JTDC*	\$1,825,000	15	399,210/yr
Cook County Sheriff's Office (CCSO)	\$8,837,380**	3	7,271,771/yr

* Juvenile Temporary Detention Center

** Does not include annual spend from the commissaries



Other Key Progress

- Kicked off Task Force in May 2019 with over 20 Cook County depts/agencies and key local food system stakeholders represented
- Initiated baseline assessments with Cook County Health (CCH), the Sheriff's Office (CCSO), and Juvenile Temporary Detention Center (JTDC)
- Provided technical assistance to the Bureau of Asset Management in integrating GFPP language into contract up for renewal



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Challenges and Opportunities

We Lack

- Established **guidelines**, as this is a cutting edge strategy
- **Data** related to local food systems, especially for suburban Cook County
- Additional **resources** to implement this initiative; we are relying on existing resources and partnerships

We Need To Build

- Inclusive, values-based **procurement process** within Cook County
- **Readiness and capacity** of local food producers/businesses owned by people of color or residing in low- to moderate-income communities to meet Good Food standards and supply chain requirements
- Idea that **good food is a right**, instead of just a privilege



Next Steps

- Complete baseline assessments with CCH, CCSO, and JTDC
- Continue to act on incorporating GFPP language in vendor solicitations and contracts
- Work to increase readiness and capacity of local food producers and businesses of color or from low to moderate-income communities
- Finalize evaluation plan and secure resources for implementation



Questions?



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